

REIGN OF CHRIST

A REIGN OF LOVE AND PEACE

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

November 24, 2024

Reign of Christ Sunday
Sunday, November 24, 2024
(* indicates the assembly stands)

Gathering

Prelude *"Elizabethan Serenade"* R. Binge

Words of Welcome & Service Announcements

*Hymn 866 *"We Are Marching"*

Baptism p. 227

Baptismal Acclamation 212 *"You Belong to Christ"*

Baptism Hymn 423 *"Shall We Gather at the River"*

*Greeting

*Prayer of the Day

Anthem *"Blessed Word of God Incarnate"* R. Pearsall

Word

Reading Ephesians 1:15-23

*Gospel Acclamation *"Alleluia"* p. 124

*Gospel Reading Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day 431 *"O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us"*

*Prayers of Intercession **A: receive our prayer.**

*Peace

Meal

*Offering 184 *"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"*

*Great Thanksgiving p. 129

*Holy, Holy, Holy p. 130

*Thanksgiving at the Table

*Lord's Prayer ("Our Father, who art in heaven...")

p. 134

Lamb of God

p. 135

Communion Hymns 677, 857

*Table Blessing

*Prayer after Communion

Sending

General Announcements

*Blessing

*Hymn 671

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

*Dismissal

A: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Here I Am, Lord"

M. Hayes

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On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and that death doesn't have the last word even as await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety. The AED and a first aid kit are in the hallway by the office.

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Carey Meadows-Helmer

Assisting Minister: Linda McLellan

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Choral Scholars: Nicole Hamilton, Hannah Swiderski, Sarah Hu-A-Kam, Dylan Siebert

Percussion: Peter Winkler

Guitar: Dennis Golem

Communion Server: Pat Giilck

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

Building Monitor: Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

Worship Notes

In our prayers Lynda, Anneke, Glennis Koenig, Judy, Clare, Yvonne, Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Grace, Maureen and John.

Baptized today is Mason Ronald Ogonowski born April 26, 2023 of parents Krista (Roeder) and Thomas Ogonowski. Mason's baptismal sponsors are Ron & Bev Roeder and Teresa Ogonowska.

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Downstairs Washrooms** can be accessed via any of the staircases. There is one wheelchair accessible washroom, and the rest are all-gender washrooms. A further all-gender washroom is also available via the west stair tower door (front left of the Sanctuary) on the same level. Turn right at the hallway.

General Announcements

Special Congregational Meeting this morning following the service there will be a meeting and vote regarding Property Redevelopment. All voting members are invited to attend in-person this very important meeting. Please note that according to our new bylaws, only votes cast in-person can be counted (proxy votes or mail-in votes cannot be counted). **Please note, there is no Coffee Hour today. See you next week!**

Boxed Envelopes are ready for pick up outside the church office.

Calling all bakers! Your St. Matthews Women of Faith Group is hosting next Sunday's (Dec. 1st) Advent Carol Service Reception, with the theme "Declaring Peace". While most of the preparations are complete, there is remains a need for nut free baked goods and sweets (cookies, squares etc.). Any members of the congregation who would like to contribute any such items are asked to either bring them down to the Community Hall before or after the Sunday morning service on December 1st, or to drop them off at the Hall before the beginning of the Carol Service, which starts at 7pm. We would ask that any contributions be nut-free. Please feel free to reach out to Marjorie Kuschnerit if you have any questions, and we thank you for any contributions you might be able to provide.

Intergenerational Christmas Play. Calling all shepherds, sheep and angels! Join us for a delightful Children's Christmas Play on December 15! Get ready to be captivated as the children (and young at heart) bring the Christmas story to life. This is a perfect opportunity to come together and celebrate Christmas. So, mark your calendars and make sure to bring your loved ones to be a part of this transformational story of Jesus born among us. We can't wait to see you there! Speak to pastors Carey or Sebastian to participate.

Please join us December 1, 2024 at 7 pm for our annual Advent Carol Service which features Robert Schumann's work Adventlied, a song for the season of Christ's coming. Declaring Peace is our theme and we will hear how each Christian is encouraged to be part of God's renewing of Creation and humankind. Former choral scholar Siyuan Carter-Patkau will be with us to sing the Soprano solo in this cycle of 7 songs for which Deacon Scott has adapted a new English text for our context.

Contact Information

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Advent Carol Service

Declaring Peace

featuring Robert Schumann's
Adventlied Op. 71

December 1, 2024 at 7 pm
Freewill Offering

St. Matthews Lutheran Church
54 Benton Street, Kitchener
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St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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